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Bangalore Mirror

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Just when all hands are needed on deck, turns out BBMP's forest dept is severely understaffed

LOOK MA, NO HANDS

Just one range forest officer looks after all 8 zones

| Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Forest Department of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is expected to work round the clock during the monsoon as it has to make arrangements to remove fallen trees or clear tree branches. However, whenever trees have fallen in the city, like in the last few days, the mess gets cleared up only after a lot of delay.

The main grouse against the forest department is that it takes a lot of time to press men and machinery into service to clear fallen trees. The other complaint is the forest department either issues permission to cut trees without inspecting their health or delays issuing permission which may result in property owners cutting trees illegally.

However, the forest department has this to say in its defence: The main hurdle for the department to function efficiently is an acute shortage of manpower.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

KAUSHIK JN

"The existing employees are attending to problems by working extra hours. It is taking two to three days to fix the problems due to the shortage of manpower – BBMP Deputy Conservator of Forests Sarina Sakkaligar

Auto mode

King of the road, but why so angry?

PAGE 3

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3 THINGS TO DO

01 Cooking for kids

Introducing tiny ones to cooking at an early age can be a wonderful way to foster their creativity. The cooking classes at JW Marriott Hotel Bengaluru offer a unique blend of fun, learning, and hands-on experience children imbibing essential culinary skills such as measuring ingredients, mixing, and even plating their creations like professional chefs!
Where: ALBA, JW Marriott Hotel Bengaluru
When: Till 31st May
For more details, call: 9667523794

02 Stories and brunch

Sundays and late morning Brunch is an emotion. On the other hand, Stories have always been an emotion too. What's common between the two is the rich heritage of food and stories. What if they come together?
Listen to these stories of the food as you enjoy your Sunday Brunch set at a cozy location that has its own stories. A beautiful day starts with a lovely breakfast.
Where: Atta Galatta
When: May 28, 10 AM- 11:30 AM
Ticket: https://in.bookmyshow.com

03 Spiralling into desire

Spiralling into Desire is a Movement x Film collaboration that documents a woman's descent into her deep body, as she follows her desire. Bringing together dancer, authentic movement and mental health practitioner Brinda Jacob-Janvrin, filmmakers Roohi Dixit and Ziba Bhagwagar, this experimental film is a visceral journey into the liminal space inhabited by the mover as she navigates the inner and outer worlds. This experimental film is set at the intersection of the arts, psychology and spirituality.
Where: Bangalore Creative Circus
When: 28th May, 4:00pm-6:00pm
Register: https://rzp.io/l/bccsmart

Mission revival: Indira canteens

Canteens offering pocket-friendly meals all set to get new lease of life

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For several years, Indira canteens, which were set up to offer food at budget prices, have been seeing a slow death. Many of these canteens were shut while even those which are open have been seeing fewer customers. Many were disgruntled that the food served was not up to the mark.

Now, with Siddaramaiah taking over as Chief Minister, the canteens have got a new lease of life and the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is coming up with new plans to revive the canteens.

One of the proposals is to reset the menu. BBMP's Special Commissioner (Finance) Jayaram Raipura said, "We have already initiated the process of making Indira canteens attractive to customers. We have done an analysis of Indira canteen and one of the responses we have got is that there is a need to add a variety of food to the menu. We will soon float tenders for running Indira canteens and the lowest bidder will be awarded the contract. Currently, we have received feedback that the breakfast served for Rs 5 is too less in quantity and the customers are demanding that the breakfast quantity needs to be increased. So, we are exploring various options whether to increase the breakfast quantity to match that of the lunch and if so, we have to increase the price of breakfast to that of lunch."

> **"We will soon float tenders for running Indira canteens and the lowest bidder will be awarded the contract**
>
> –Jayaram Raipura

Currently, lunch is priced at Rs 10. Though breakfast and lunch are quite popular among customers, there are no takers for dinner. Raipura added that there was a trend indicating a demand for breakfast and lunch, while there is little interest in dinner. "Our priority is to ensure that the food served is both tasty and delicious, with breakfast portions equivalent to those of lunch," he said.

When Raipura was asked about the allegations that a few caterers were providing false accounts of food served, Raipura said, "To address this issue, we have assigned marshals to oversee the food supply process and prevent any discrepancies. However, the caterers allege that there are pending dues which need to be worked out."

BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said that the Chief Minister has instructed them to take up the issue of Indira canteens. "Over the past three years, we have not received any financial assistance from the State Government to sustain the operations of Indira canteens. Therefore, we will be approaching the government to secure additional funds. Additionally, we face the challenge of expanding the number of Indira canteens due to the increase in BBMP wards, which now totals 243. Furthermore, several mobile canteens were recently closed and need to be reopened. The primary consideration is serving delicious food at Indira canteens and if we succeed in that, then it will automatically attract more customers. At present, there is no proposal to raise the prices of food in Indira canteens. However, we will be seeking additional funds from the state government to provide budgetary support and ensure that customers are not adversely affected."

Shady matters in tiger reserves

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The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has yet again reached out to the Karnataka Forest Department regarding the matter of illegal construction and infrastructure development in the core area of Kali Tiger Reserve.

NTCA has written to the chief wildlife warden of Karnataka after wildlife conservationists in the area raised concerns about the development work of the recently inaugurated orchidarium, despite NTCA taking cognizance of the matter and directing the Chief Wildlife Warden of Karnataka Forest Department to take action against officials of Kali Tiger Project and NTCA southern zone for violating the Forest Conservation Act by allowing illegal construction activities.

"...another representation vide email has been received by this authority regarding videos and photos of a person painting the Orchidarium compound wall in the core tiger zone of Kali Tiger Reserve. In this regard, I am directed to request you to furnish (a) factual report to this authority at the earliest," said the letter dated May 22 by the assistant inspector general of forest, NTCA.

Wildlife conservationists say they were alarmed by recently circulated photos and videos of a man painting on the walls of the Orchidarium on social media sites.

"It is not clear whether he was invited by the forest officials of the Kali Tiger Project. Even so, a detailed probe has to be conducted," said a conservationist.

BangaloreMirror
Relook at what's going on at tiger reserve
NTCA writes to forest dept seeking details on construction inside Kali reserve

BM reported on March 25 about illegal activities in the tiger reserve

NTCA has many times has reached out to the state forest department seeking action against officials responsible for some of the structures in the core zone. One of the letters also sought a high-level probe about CSR funds and Tiger Foundation funds for constructing the Orchidarium.

This was after locals and wildlife conservationists highlighted the issue of illegal construction activities inside the reserve forest. Orchidarium, jungle safari, and canopy walks were some of the unlawful activities brought to NTCA's notice.

"By rule, the public is not allowed inside the core zones. NTCA should probe it instead of seeking factual reports leading to no conclusive outcome," said a wildlife activist in the area.

Jack of many trades

Study highlights advantages of autorickshaws as both freight, passenger transport

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A new study by the World Resource Institute (WRI) showcases the advantages of the dual utility of autorickshaws. According to the study, if autorickshaws are used for both freight and passenger transport, they can increase the revenue of autorickshaw drivers by an average of 15 per cent.

In a pan-India study covering five cities—Delhi, Lucknow, Pune, Bengaluru, and Hyderabad—researchers found that the earning levels of autorickshaw drivers can be increased through the dual-purpose usage of transporting passengers and goods.

The study was conducted based on a survey with responses from 338 MSMEs, 442 retailers, dealers, distributors, and 608 supply-side three-wheeler autorickshaw drivers. It was published in a paper titled 'Assessing the Viability of Using Autorickshaws for Urban Freight Delivery in India', authored by Rohan Rao, Sudeept Maiti, and Pawan Mulukutla.

Rao, Program Manager, Electric Mobility, WRI India, and the lead author of the paper, said, "This working paper lays the groundwork to enhance awareness of the concept of dual use of three-wheeler autorickshaws for urban freight operations and provides initial solutions for its implementation. However, there is room for further study, especially regarding safety parameters, the design of autorickshaws, and exploring other micro-mobility options to facilitate goods transportation."

Autos clicked in the city; nearly 76% are already following the dual-use case model, the study finds

> **"There is a strong need to increase income levels of autorickshaws to incentivise them to move towards EVs**
>
> –Pawan Mulukutla, WRI India

According to the study, nearly 76 per cent of people are already following the dual-use case model, but the frequency of practice is still low.

Experts suggest that a policy-level change is required for autorickshaw drivers to use it to their maximum potential.

The study reveals that autorickshaw drivers experience downtime during different intervals of the day. 57 per cent of respondents said they work nine-12 hours, and 26 per cent said they work six-nine hours. Out of these, 42 per cent experienced a downtime of two-four hours while working nine-12 hours, and 40 per cent experienced a downtime of one-two hours while working for six-nine hours. The study highlights that autorickshaw drivers can utilise this time period to maximise their income levels. Since the maximum demand occurs during the morning and evening commute periods, the time slot between 12 pm and 4 pm is considered ideal for freight order pickups. However, the vehicle also suffers from instability while overloading beyond capacity.

The study also notes that a transition towards electric vehicles (EVs) will aid in increasing the safety of vehicles and goods. It will also significantly reduce carbon emissions from gasoline-based autorickshaws.

Pawan Mulukutla, Director, Integrated Transport, Electric Mobility and Hydrogen, WRI India, said, "There is a strong need to increase income levels of autorickshaws to incentivise them to move towards EVs. The shift towards EVs in the three-wheeler segment has been low."

While current regulations of The Motor Vehicles Act 1988 prohibit the transportation of goods in contract carriages like autorickshaws, recent amendments to the Act in 2019 provide discretionary powers to the central government to develop a National Transportation Policy in concurrence with state governments, exempting specific vehicle categories from older regulations.

Mix-up in sacrilege case 'arrest'

Punjab Police, which announced the arrest of Sandeep Bareta, a member of the Dera Sacha Sauda national committee, a day earlier at Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) in Bengaluru, has now said that the man arrested is not him and there has been a confusion.

Sandeep Bareta, who has been missing for the past seven years, is said to have been engaged in all three major sacrilegious acts that occurred in Faridkot's Bargari in 2015 as well as other crimes.

On Wednesday, Punjab police tweeted, "A communication from Immigration Authorities was received regarding detaining of Sandeep. The matter was promptly verified. It has been found that the detained person at Bengaluru Airport is not the wanted accused." **— BMB**

UT Khader elected speaker

Senior Congress leader and five-time MLA from Dakshina Kannada district UT Khader was unanimously elected as Karnataka Assembly Speaker on Wednesday.

Khader became the first Muslim Speaker in the history of Karnataka.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Opposition party leader Basavaraj Bommai, and Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar accompanied Khader to the Speakers' bench. Khader took charge from pro-rata Speaker RV Deshpande.

Fifty-three-year-old Khader's name was proposed by the CM. As BJP and JD(S) did not field their candidates; he was selected unanimously as the Speaker.

"We all know that you are a very good legislator. The people who occupy the seat of Speaker must work cutting across party lines," CM Siddaramaiah stated in the Assembly.

—IANS

Beware! Angry autorickshaw rides haunt B'luru

Citizens complain of increasingly aggressive behaviour by auto drivers

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It is becoming a worrying reality for several residents that there are more and more instances of aggressive and abusive auto drivers in Bengaluru. Many times, people who are traveling by car with family or children face the problem of auto drivers getting out of their auto and abusing them.

In a post shared by a Twitter user named Thirdeye, a video shows slow traffic with a car and an auto moving on the same road. The car moves closer to the auto, and the auto driver gets out and starts abusing the car owner. He claims that there is a scratch on his auto and proceeds to scratch the mirror of the car.

"The car driver in this video says he visited the police station to lodge an FIR. However, the police personnel insisted on not filing the FIR and instead trying to compromise. The car driver has lost hope and returned without lodging the FIR," claimed the tweet.

This isn't an isolated incident as several people in the city claim to be facing aggressive auto drivers every day.

"This has been happening for a week. I travel from Koramangala to Frazer Town every day, and I have to take an auto. Just this week the auto drivers were speeding on almost four instances. Even when you try to tell them to slow down, they don't listen. Yesterday, while coming back home late at night, it was raining, so I told the auto driver to drive slowly, but he refused. Instead, he was driving so recklessly that the auto was about to hit a divider," said Swati, a commuter.

Another citizen said, "I have come across videos of auto drivers getting into fights with bike taxi drivers. Personally, I have not had arguments with auto drivers. However, I feel many of them have no regard for traffic rules. They seem to be totally unaware of aspects such as lane discipline. People also fear confrontation with them as they have their groups to back them up. Action should be taken against any violators irrespective of the type of vehicle. Awareness initiatives for groups such as auto drivers, bus drivers, and commercial vehicle drivers must be undertaken."

> **"I told the auto driver to drive slowly, but he refused. Instead, he started driving more recklessly in the rain**
>
> –Swati, commuter

Power change weighs heavy on select few

Contractors up in arms against govt circular freezing payment of bills

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File photo of demolition work for metro construction; the decision to freeze payments can affect those who have completed their work

The state government's decision to suspend payments for ongoing and completed work came as a surprise to thousands of contractors across the state, including contractors of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

Dr Ekroop Caur, Secretary of the Finance Department, issued a circular on May 22 instructing all relevant government officials to freeze bill payments immediately. According to Caur, this order is based on the Chief Minister's directive, which requires all relevant authorities to halt bill payments for work undertaken by the previous government.

The government's decision to freeze bill payments is particularly detrimental to many contractors who have completed their work and are now awaiting payment. These contractors expected the Congress government to be favourable towards them, considering the Congress's utilisation of a '40 per cent commission' allegation against the BJP government during the recent election campaign.

"I believed that the Congress government would support the contractors since they benefited from the '40 per cent commission allegation'. I completed my work prior to the Assembly election, but I have yet to receive payment for my bills amounting to crores of rupees," said an electrical contractor.

According to T Manjunath, President of the BBMP Contractors' Association, the decision to freeze bill payments will affect approximately 1,000 contractors who have completed work allocated by the BBMP. "The BBMP has not cleared bills since May 2021. There are pending bills worth Rs 2,500 crore that need to be settled. We are in discussions with the government and will request them, as well as the BBMP, to expedite the clearance of these pending bills. If the government and the BBMP continue to delay the clearance, we will be compelled to stage a protest," stated Manjunath.

> **Many contractors have borrowed money from banks and financiers, and they are obligated to pay interest on those loans. Payment has already been delayed due to polls** – Contractor

A Class I electrical contractor blamed the lobby of IAS officers for the circular ordering the freeze. "I suspect that a few IAS officers who aspire to hold key positions in the new government advised the Chief Minister to stop paying bills to the contractors. Many contractors have borrowed money from banks and financiers, and they are obligated to pay interest on those loans. The payment of bills has already been delayed due to the model code of conduct. Now, the contractors have to pay a certain amount to the officers and elected representatives to clear the pending bills," said the contractor.

BS Pratap, a BBMP contractor, revealed that he is still awaiting payment of Rs 6 crore from the BBMP for works completed three years ago. "The latest circular further delays the settlement of my pending bills with the BBMP. I have borrowed money from a bank and have received a notice regarding non-payment of the loan," said Pratap.

Meanwhile, D Kempanna, President of the Karnataka State Contractors' Association, stated that the government issued the circular after discovering instances of contractors receiving work orders with backdated dates and some contractors receiving payment without completing the work. "I am opposed to contractors receiving payment without completing the work or obtaining work orders with backdated dates. The recent circular freezing bill payments will negatively impact genuine contractors who have already completed their works. I am attempting to arrange a meeting with the Chief Minister," said Kempanna.

No manpower to sort out mess

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

It is quite shocking to know that the forest department does not have forest guards for the 243 wards in the city. The number of wards was increased to 243 from 198 recently. It is not that there were forest guards for the 198 wards all these years. The forest department has only one Range Forest Officer. The BBMP jurisdiction is divided into eight zones and the BBMP West Zone has the Range Forest Officer and he has to attend issues in eight zones as the remaining seven zones have no Range Forest Officer.

The forest department should have 28 Deputy Range Forest Officers but there are only 14 Deputy Range Forest Officers.

"It has become difficult for the existing staff to attend to problems. The existing employees are attending to problems by working extra hours. It is taking two to three days to fix the problems due to the shortage of manpower," said BBMP Deputy Conservator of Forests Sarina Sakkaligar.

File photo of a tree fallen at the Jnanabharathi campus after a night of rain

The Deputy Conservator of Forests has said the forest department has engaged 28 teams to clear fallen trees and tree branches throughout the year. "Each team is being paid around Rs 11,000 per day. Each team consists of eight workers (including three skilled workers), a driver and a vehicle and tree cutting equipment. The teams work eight hours during summer and winter but they have to work round the clock during monsoon," the DCF said.

The DCF said the forest department has hired 13 more teams to clear fallen trees and tree branches during the monsoon.

And the alarming rate at which trees are falling this year, the teams are likely to have their hands full.

whatsapp MIRROR 9591233247

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Scattered pipes
Seshadri Road

OFC pipes are scattered across Seshadri Road, posing a threat to passers-by.

Dire wire
Anand Rao Circle

An electric wire dangerously looms near Anand Rao Circle, demanding immediate attention.

No parking!
Dhanwantari Road

Dhanwantari Road has been transformed into an unauthorised parking lot for buses.

Get things moving, now

'Need more buses, consultative planning for public transport'

Iffath Fathima @timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

As the newly elected government prepares to take charge in Karnataka, the Bengaluru Bus Prayanikara Vedike (BBPV) group has submitted a representation highlighting the pressing issues of mobility, city planning, and governance that require urgent attention. The group emphasised on the need for systemic reforms to tackle these challenges effectively.

BBPV has highlighted issues such as approach to mobility, increasing Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) fleet size, last mile connectivity to be planned with consultations, bus priority lanes, and route revision exercises as priorities. The members of BBPV asked that the free travel scheme for women be implemented as per the manifesto of the state government.

"The scheme, which pledges free bus travel for women, students, and senior citizens, is seen as a transformative measure that can bring about genuine social and economic changes. We call for the extension of this scheme to include the transgender community as well, emphasising the need for full reimbursement of expenses incurred by the Road Transport Corporations (RTCs) under the free travel scheme," said Shaheen Sasha, a member of BBPV.

Public transport needed to allay effects of climate change; make more facilities accessible to all

Expedition of the suburban rail work is also part of the list submitted to the government.

They also highlight the adverse effects of the absence of public transport on people's ability to access education, livelihoods, and healthcare. The proliferation of private vehicles, along with an inadequate public transport system, has resulted in congestion, emissions, pollution, and the loss of green cover in the city. The group pointed to the role of mobility in combating climate change.

While the city's population and the number of private vehicles have grown significantly, the BMTC fleet size has remained stagnant for over a decade. BBPV urged the government to lift the hiring freeze and expand BMTC's fleet to 10,000 buses within a 2-3 year timeframe. They also highlighted the importance of considering minibuses as an integral part of urban mobility plans.

Vinay Sreenivas K, another member of BBPV said, "It is important to add bus priority lanes and revise the BMTC route network to optimise public transport efficiency. After the successful pilot on ORR, bus lanes were to be extended to all the high-traffic corridors. The priority of the movement of buses on all roads should become the primary principle in traffic design and planning if we really want to achieve 70% mode share for public transport."

He added that there is also a need to revise the BMTC route network to more efficiently cater to today's travel patterns.

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From deluge to scarcity

Waterlogged roads, and floating snakes contribute to menace caused by rains

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TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

A man wades through water on Tuesday evening after 2nd stage, BTM Layout was flooded due to heavy rain

There seems to be no respite for Bengalureans from rain. Following heavy rainfall on Tuesday night, many homes in and around Devarachikkanahalli and Anugraha Layout were inundated. Residents of Anugraha Layout had a tough time walking, as not only were the roads waterlogged, but snakes were also floating on the road. The water had receded by Wednesday morning, but the roads and basements had turned into slush fields, and residents were suffering from the stench.

A local said, "The free flow of water was disrupted due to rajakaluve remodelling works. The rajakaluve, which had a width of 50 feet earlier, has now been reduced to just 15 feet, which was hindering the water flow."

A Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) official said that as Anugraha Layout is at a lower altitude, the area gets flooded during heavy rainfall. The civic agency has taken up the process of flushing out the water.

A resident of Devarachikkanahalli said, "It is just half an hour of rain, and the area is flooded. A drain has been repaired, and the water has flooded nearby houses, and many vehicles have been damaged."

Meanwhile, the underpass near Sivananda Circle was flooded on Tuesday night, and police had a tough time managing traffic. BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath clarified that no underpass in the city will be shut down. The work on KR Circle has started, and work on other underpasses will start soon. "CM has directed that there should be no negligence, and action will be taken against the negligent behaviour of officers."

KRS level dips

While Bengaluru is witnessing flash floods due to heavy rainfall, the Krishnaraja Sagar Reservoir (KRS) in Mandya district is seeing a consistent dip in the storage level.

The water storage at KRS is crucial not just for many districts of the state but also for Bengaluru, as the city is heavily dependent on Cauvery water to meet its drinking water needs. On Wednesday, the water storage at KRS had dipped to 82.3 feet, which is said to be the lowest in the last five years.

Around 1,450 MLD of water is pumped from the TK Reservoir (near Kanakapura) on a daily basis.

A BWSSB official said, "We are now comfortably placed as far as water storage is concerned. Around 70 per cent of Bengaluru's water requirements are met from KRS storage and 30 per cent from Kabini. This is in stark contrast with the situation in previous years. We have seen the worst scenarios earlier. For example, we had a water crisis in 2003 when the water level in KRS depleted to 64.67 feet in May. The inflow had dropped to just 17 cusecs. There was a water crisis in 2016 and 2017. The water crisis will also have inter-state ramifications as there have been tussles with neighbouring Tamil Nadu over water sharing."

Man dies as his bike skids on underpass

Another death due to heavy rain has come to light in Bengaluru. A man named Fakhruddin died due to heavy rain on Monday. The incident took place near Kachohalli underpass of NICE Road.

After finishing work on Monday, Fakhruddin was going towards Ramanagara on his bike. At this time, while travelling on NICE Road above Kachohalli underpass, the bike skidded and fell. He died on the way to the hospital. A case has been registered in this regard at the Kamakshipalya Traffic Police Station.

Spilling manholes cause mess

| Rachana Ramesh
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Residents of Yelachenahalli and other surrounding areas have complained of manholes overflowing after rains, causing flooding in surrounding areas.

Gulab Pasha, a civic activist told Bangalore Mirror that the manholes often overflow even after small showers of rain since they are not consistently desilted.

"The authorities can make use of technology and install alarm systems that notify them when the drains need to be desilted. The pressure built in after rainwater gushes into drains causes the manholes to open and overflow. Then the sewage, along with everything else, is flooded across the areas surrounding the manhole. The situation is not looked at until the residents raise multiple complaints," he said.

The authorities, may it be the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) or the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), place the blame on each other and say it's the other's responsibility.

BWSSB claims that the BBMP does not allow them to dig up roads to carry out necessary works, leading to a delay, and the other provides a similar fictitious reason. There is a severe lack of coordination among departments, he added.

Meanwhile, Rangamma, a resident of Attiguppe said that a manhole covering situated right outside her house had loosened due to heavy rain and the water had begun to gush out, entering her compound.

It's time to check on these underpasses in city

| Iffath.Fathima
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According to residents, the railway underpass gets flooded every time it rains

The residents of Benson Town and Nandidurga Road, who frequently take the railway underbridge that is present after Miller's Road signal to reach their houses, are facing prominent problems with the space getting flooded every time it rains.

According to the residents, despite regular complaints, nothing much has been done about the underpass. Those staying in the localities for 10 or more years stated they have been seeing the problem since then.

With the heavy pre-monsoon showers in the state in the past three days, the city is seeing constant flooding problems in multiple localities and underpasses.

Similar is the situation for commuters passing through the underbridge leading to the Quddus Saheb Eidgah Road, which results in frequent flooding. Despite a drain constructed to facilitate the water floor and prevent flooding, the place gets flooded with every rain, said residents.

Waseem Memon, a resident of the area, said, "With every downpour, the place gets flooded. Cars and bikes cannot pass through the underpass. I have been seeing this condition for 10 years now, and nothing has changed. While taking the underpass and reaching my house, it takes only 5 minutes for me. However, when the underbridge gets flooded, I have to take a deviation and go through the Cantonment Railway Station, then pass through Bamboo Bazaar and reach Bore Bank Road, and then come towards Benson Town."

He added that many residents have highlighted this issue a couple of times, but nothing has been done in this regard. When it doesn't rain, the drainage water is seen overflowing through the stretch

During the weekend downpour, the residents saw water coming down from the Jayamahal Palace and overflowing through the walls that are built to separate the traffic coming from Jayamahal and Miller's Road, affecting many commuters passing through the stretch.

"A huge amount of water started to overflow from the Jayamahal Palace, and the force was so strong that it overflowed through the walls. The two-wheeler riders are highly affected by this, as when they ride through the stretch, dirty water pours on to them," said Marryam, another resident.

Many demanded for a permanent solution to the problem.

"There are three agencies that lack coordination in this case. It is the railways, BBMP, and Bengaluru Smart City Limited (BSCL). The BSCL took the entire road from Eidgah to High Grounds for development. They should have taken this issue into consideration as well and solved it, but they left it out. There is a drainage issue at that spot, and there is no footpath for people to walk on," said Rajkumar Dugar from Citizens 4 Citizens. "Adjacent to Cantonment Station, there was a small underpass for people to walk through, but the railway closed it after citing that the bridge was weak. We even see it leaking at times," he added.

Emission impossible: EVs just not enough

City's EV fleet to rise in future says study; tail-pipe emissions to also go up

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According to a study, Bengaluru's EV fleet is expected to rise to 75,000 to 2.3M by 2030. However, despite the prediction for increased penetration, tail-pipe emissions will continue to increase.

As per the report published by Bengaluru-based think tank the Centre for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP), Bengaluru traffic is expected to grow by 1.5 times, with the total vehicular population projected to increase from 5.7M to 8.9M by 2030.

The study was conducted based on the on-stock vehicle in the last 20 years through the transport department's vehicle registration data to estimate the number of on-road vehicles and accounted for the vehicles that were retired and slated for retirement.

The findings of the study were filed in the paper titled 'Bengaluru 2030: Impact of EVs on Vehicular Emissions' authored by Saad Khan, Spurthi Ravuri, Thirumalai NC.

The city's EV fleet is projected to grow at a weighted average compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 56%. "Electric two-wheelers (e2Ws) will experience the most significant growth (2M vehicles in 2030), followed by electric four-wheelers (e4Ws; 140k vehicles) and electric three-wheelers (e3Ws; 130k vehicles). If this growth is sustained till the horizon year, 100% EV sales penetration can be witnessed in 2030 for all vehicle classes except for four-wheelers." said the study.

The study also found that switching to EVs could help avoid emissions of roughly 3.3M tonnes of CO2 a year

To meet the energy requirements of charging the projected 2.34M EVs, the city will need 6.2M units of electricity.

Around 55 per cent of BESCOM's energy is generated from thermal plants. researchers suggest a combination of renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, biomass and hydro. To sustainably meet the city EV's energy requirements, 1.37 GW of rooftop solar installations (total rooftop area of 16.4 sq km) will be sufficient, with the city's rooftop solar potential remaining at 3.2 GW.

However, the tailpipe emission is expected to increase CO2, nitrogen oxides (NOx), and particulate matter (PM) emissions by only 25%, 13%, and 8% respectively. The study also found that switching to EVs could help avoid emissions of roughly 3.3M tonnes of CO2/year, ie greenhouse gas emissions would only increase by 1.25 times (from 11.1M tonnes to 13.8M tonnes of CO2).

Saad Khan explained the increase in tailpipe emission increase. For every 10 lakh 2W being sold, we need to look at the percentage of EVs. In the last year, Bengaluru RTOS registered 10-11 lakh 2W every month and EVs only amount to 6,000-8,000 and are estimated to be 6-7 per cent. By 2030, all segments except four-wheeler (personal) will see 100 per cent penetration.

Due to conventional vehicles continuing to be sold, emissions will increase by 1.25 times while the vehicle on the road will increase by 1.5 times. The difference can be attributed to the EV penetration, he said.

Researchers added that the study does not account for the reduction in Fame-II subsidy as the announcement was made at a later stage.

Forging Indo-Aussie ties, in B'luru

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Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison announces establishment of Australian consulate in Bengaluru

In what is good news for travellers and students alike, Australian PM Scott Morrison announced the establishment of an Australian consulate in Bengaluru. This was announced in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is on a visit to Australia.

The Australian PM said that he was pleased to announce the establishment of a new consulate general in Bengaluru, which will help connect Australia's businesses to India's booming digital innovation ecosystem. "I welcome India's plans on consulate general in Brisbane. The Bengaluru establishment will be the 5th diplomatic presence in India from Australia. I want to thank you PM Modi for visiting and receiving such a warm welcome here and I look forward to returning to India in September for the G20 summit."

Anoosh Benegal, a resident of Malleshwaram, usually travels to Australia to visit his son in Sydney. He told Bangalore Mirror, "If the consulate was not in Bengaluru, we would have to send the documents to another consulate which would be time-consuming. Since the Mumbai consulate general covers a huge number of inputs, our visa process would be covered under Delhi. The advantage is that the visa process will be faster. Besides, the risk of transit during posting the passport for visa would be very high."

The Australian government also announced the renaming of Australia's Harris Park to Little India. Talking about the local connect, Anoosh said, "Harris Park has Indian local restaurants like Adyaar Anand Bhavan and Saravana Bhavan. MTR products are also available in shops."

Srikanth Sheshadri, another regular visitor to Australia, to meet his daughter in Sydney said, "India and Australia relationship has been on the upswing for the past few years. It all started with the cricketing ties and emerged as a big centre for higher education. Recently linking of the trade agreement improved the ties between the countries. In this connection, the opening of the consulate will be very useful for education, commerce and trade. Of late there has been alignment of interests in terms of political, defense, strategic. This increase in diplomatic representation is one of the outcomes of opening the consulate."

PM Modi who is on a visit to Australia also announced that an Indian consulate will be set up in Brisbane. Modi was addressing a gathering of around 20,000 people in Sydney. Australia has recognised Bengaluru as a technical hub. A direct flight from Bengaluru to Sydney was also started by Qantas Airways on September 14 last year. Earlier people had to take flights via Bangkok, Singapore and other places.

DGCI's move on cough syrup exports

With India making testing of cough syrups before export mandatory from June 1, the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) has asked specified state laboratories to examine such samples from manufacturers on "top priority and issue the test report at the earliest".

Cough syrup exporters will have to produce a certificate of analysis issued by a government laboratory before the product is exported, effective June 1, the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) said in a notification on Monday.

The move came amid instances of quality concerns being raised abroad on cough syrups exported by Indian firms. On Wednesday, the country's top drug regulator, DCGI, wrote to state drug controllers of Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttarakhand and central laboratories and referred to the notification regarding the export policy of cough syrups. –PTI

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I, Libi George D/o George Sebastian R/o J-902,Purva Palm Beach, Elus road off Hennur road Bangalore 560077, After Marriage with Nitin Mehra, have changed my name to Anjali Mehra for all Purposes

I, Marthal Manikaraj, D/o Manikaraj, R/a no 109 Dodd anna nagar RT nagar near Kaval Byrasandra bus stand Kavalbyrasandra Bangalore-32. I have changed my name from Marthal to Marthal Manikaraj. vide affidavit dtd 18-05-23. swor n before notary Leela B'lore.

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I, Dasari Narasimhappa (Old Name) S/O Dasari Narayanappa, H.No-4-2-209, Hindupur, Sri Satya Sai -Dt. Changing My Name From Dasari Narasimhappa To Dasari Venkata Narasimhappa (New Name), Henceforth I am being called as Dasari Venkata Narasimhappa For All Purposes

I, Kalam Inayathullah (Old Name) S/O Kalam Anwar Beig, H.No-28-3-458, Anantapur. Changing My Name From Kalam Inayathullah To Kalam Inayithullah (New Name), Henceforth I am being called as Kalam Inayithullah For All Purposes

I, Sunar Liyaqath Ali (Old Name) S/O Sunar Abdul Sattar Sab, H.No-16-7-18a, Hindupur, Sri Satya Sai -Dt. Changing My name from Sunar Liyaqath Ali To Shaik Liyakhat Ali (New Name), Henceforth I am being called as Shaik Liyakhat Ali For All Purposes

I, Jignesh Kamlesh Thankey alias Thankey Jignesh S/o Kamlesh Pranjivan Thankey, R/o.Gangothri Elegance-B004,5th Cross,Jyothi Nagar Gottigere, B'luru 560083 Have Changed My Name To Jignesh Kamleshbhai Thankey Affidavit Dt.24/05/2023 Notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I Saikalash Diwakara Shetty S/O, Divakar Shetty R/o Bangalore have changed my name to Saikalash Divakar Shetty for all purposes

I Sajal Kishor Choudhary S/o Prahlad Choudhary R/o Aishwarya Lake View Residency, 6th F Cross Rd, Kaggadasapura, Bengaluru 560093 have changed my name from Sajal Kishor Choudhary to Sajal Choudhary for all future purposes

I, KHADAR BASHA MALIK, R/a, #720, 3rd Cross, Vinobha Nagar, KG Halli, Bangalore-560045. I, have changed my name to KHADER BASHA, Vide affidavit dated 20/05/2023, Sworn before Notary: M. Rajendra, Bangalore

I, Monika Anand D/o Anand Kumar M R/o 498, 3rd Cross Shivashankara Block Hebbal Bangalore 560024 Has Changed My Minor sons Name from Talank Prashanth to Tanvik Prashanth for All purpose

I, Basamma w/o Ramareddy Patil R/o #188/14 , Shree jagajyothi , Sedam Road Kalaburgi-585105 have changed my name to Basavarajeshwari for all purposes.

I, Abirami Vinod Kumar R/o 6th A Cross Ejipura Bengaluru 560047 have changed my minor son's name from Vinay Viswanathan Vinod Kumar to Vinay Viswanathan

I, Priya Latha Nagaraj R/o #134 ,12th Cross ,1st main ,Venkatapura Kormangala ,B'luru-560034 have changed my name to Priyalatha Kuppuswamy for all purposes.

I, Abel Thileeban.E, F/O Jonathan Clifford Levi.A, changed my son's name to Jonathan.A vide affidavit dt. 19 May 23 sworn before notary G Dakshini, Bangalore

I Suddala Sumanth S/O, Suddala Subbarayudu R/o 48,kodigehalli, Kadugodi, Bengaluru, Karnataka have changed my name to Suddala Harindranath for all purposes.

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SPICE MAGIC

Turmeric: here's how it actually measures up to health claims

Turmeric has been used by humans for more than 4,000 years. As well as cooking and cosmetics, it's been a staple of the traditional medicine practice of Ayurveda, used to treat a variety of conditions from arthritis to wind.

Even today turmeric remains a popular health supplement. There are plenty of articles and social media posts claiming the benefits of this spice for everything from brain function to reducing pain and inflammation.

But while some of these claims are linked to evidence, most of this research is in cells and animals, making the actual effects on humans less clear.

While turmeric is reported to contain over 100 different compounds, most of its reported health benefits are linked to specific compounds called curcuminoids (the most abundant being curcumin).

Curcuminoids are phenolic compounds, which are molecules that plants often make as pigments or to discourage animals eating them. This is what gives turmeric its distinctive colour, but it can also change how cells function.

Many of the potential health effects of turmeric have been linked to these phenolic compounds which, in the lab, have been shown to have an antioxidant effect.

Antioxidants are substances which prevent or slow damage caused by free radicals – a harmful type of molecule that can cause inflammation, and has also been linked to heart disease and cancer.

But while turmeric does indeed act as an anti-inflammatory, many of the health benefits caused by this effect have only been proven in the lab (using cells) or in animals.

For example, one study fed obese mice one gram of curcumin per kilogram of body weight. After 12 weeks, they found that the mice given curcumin had similar improvements in brain function and lower levels of inflammation in their liver as the mice who had been on a weight loss diet.

So while this may have translated to healthier mice, it's unclear whether the same would be true in humans. Not to mention that had this study been conducted in humans, an average 70kg person would have needed to consume over 2kg of turmeric daily during the trial – which would be impossible.

Since no similar studies have yet been conducted on humans, we still don't understand whether turmeric reduces inflammation in a similar way.

Effect on pain

Yet despite the lack of research showing benefits in humans, turmeric (and curcumin) are widely marketed as anti-inflammatory supplements for a range of conditions – including joint pain and arthritis.

According to the results of one review, it does seem that in human trials turmeric supplements may have a modest benefit on pain compared to a placebo – and in some cases as beneficial as non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs.

But the studies included in this review appear to be of variable quality. Many were conducted using a very small population (ten people or fewer) and had a wide variation in the amount of turmeric participants were given. This means it's hard to make a clear recommendation that turmeric is effective for pain.

Turmeric has also been suggested to have anti-cancer properties due to its anti-oxidant effect. In the lab, curcumin has been shown to reverse DNA changes in cells which cause breast cancer. But it's less clear whether turmeric reduces the risk of cancer or supports treatment in humans.

Some research has shown that using a turmeric gargle could reduce the side effects of radiotherapy in people with head and neck cancers, however.

It may also help people with a rare genetic condition called familial adenomatous polyposis, with one clinical trial finding that consuming 120mg curcumin (about the same as a teaspoon of turmeric) was linked with fewer cancer-causing polyps for people with this condition – which can be a sign of the early stages of cancer.

With inflammation being linked to many cognitive health conditions such as dementia, some research has sought to understand whether turmeric can benefit brain function. So far, it's unclear whether turmeric has any effect.

The trials that have been conducted in humans have generally been very small, with a lack of consistency in study design, dosage and how they measured cognitive effects. Again, this makes it difficult to see whether turmeric really does have an effect, or whether any cognitive improvements are due to other factors.

Does turmeric really work?

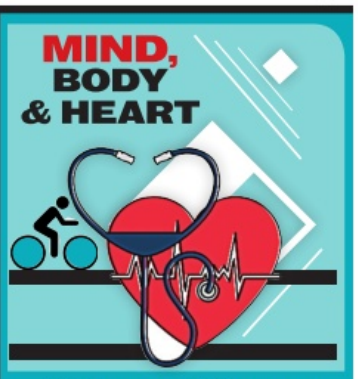
A major challenge in getting turmeric to work in our bodies is getting it from our gut into our bloodstream. Curcumin is quite a large compound – and as such can be hard for the body to absorb into the bloodstream because it isn't very soluble in water.

But other research suggests that turmeric works by acting on the bacteria in our guts. Although more data is needed on whether this is true in humans, it could suggest that turmeric doesn't need to be absorbed into the bloodstream in order to provide health benefits because it's already absorbed through our gut.

Another challenge is the amount of turmeric needed to see benefits. In many studies only the curcumin extract is used – which makes up only about 3% of turmeric powder itself. With many studies giving greater than 1g of curcumin per kilogram for a mouse or rat, the equivalent amount for these effects to be seen in a human would be difficult to achieve – even in supplement form.

Turmeric is a great spice, giving a pleasant earthy flavour and vibrant natural yellow colour to food. But it's far from clear how its reported benefits translate to human health. So, enjoy turmeric as a spice and a colour in food, but don't rely on it to deliver major health benefits or to treat or cure disease.

(By Duane Mellor, Aston University, The Conversation)



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

I'm currently on holiday with my mum, sister and husband. Last week another sister was here - she's a huge control freak, so it's a relief she's gone. However, my mum is giving me the silent treatment, texting or reading the paper to avoid communicating with me, which is an emotional abuse tactic she used a lot when I was younger, and I've been in tears.
She sneers at me for trying to eat healthily and undermines me constantly. My family don't want to take sides and my husband doesn't want me to fall out with anyone, so tells me to try not to be too sensitive.
I feel like cancelling my mum after this holiday. All my life I've tried to please her and put her feelings first, but feel it's my time to be happy. I have undergone counselling too. Unfortunately, I'm not very good at expressing myself.
Please give me some advice how I can cope.

COLEEN SAYS

Of course you have a right
It sounds like a lot of what's going on is deep rooted in your childhood and your self-esteem has been badly damaged.
On a positive note, I think it's great you've decided it's time to look after your own happiness and it's good you're seeking counselling. I also think your husband is sensible in that you'll probably never please your mum and maybe if you can accept that and refuse to take the bait, then it'll help.
And acknowledge that while you might never be what she wants you to be, as long as you believe in yourself and believe you're enough, that's what matters. Just be you. You can't be anyone else and if your mum doesn't like it, it's her issue.
And maybe a note for the future: don't torture yourself with any more family holidays.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

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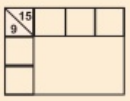
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

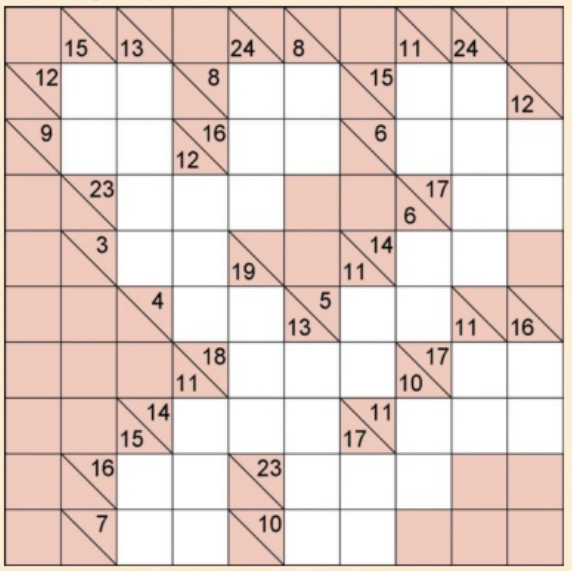
A mother is three times as old as her daughter, in twelve years time, she will be twice as old. How old is the mother now?

Kakuro

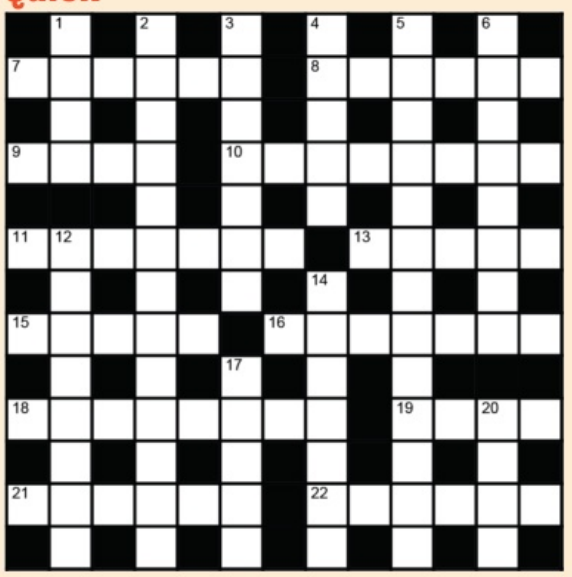
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Streams or pours (6)
8 Nook's neighbour (6)
9 Weapon of assault (4)
10 Eased the pain or tension, in a way? (8)
11 Vigilantly (7)
13 Mystery stories pioneer ___ Allan Poe (5)
15 Condition (5)
16 Arrays, formats or plans (7)
18 Greek philosopher (8)
19 Church leader (4)
21 Karnataka tourist destination known for its sculptures and red sandstone cliffs (6)
22 Yearly (6)

DOWN

1 ___ facto : by that very fact? (4)
2 Tyrannical (13)
3 Generally (2,1,4)
4 Clamber up (5)
5 Listening in on a conversation (13)
6 Play a role with restraint (8)
12 Seashore (8)
14 Rower (7)
17 Moral values (5)
20 Drama (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: L EQUALS G

RMQIBO DQF'B QZITM OEI, RIB RUQCFYEUS – UMQPCFL, YUCBCFL, BKCFSCFL – DQF.

Linemaro

You're the one reason I wake up in the morning, you ' re the one reason I find a way to smile

Mindchow

Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive

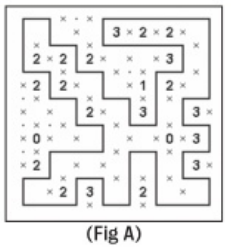
Joke of the day

If a man is alone in the forest, and he says something, and there's no woman there to disagree with him. Is he still wrong?

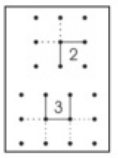
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)



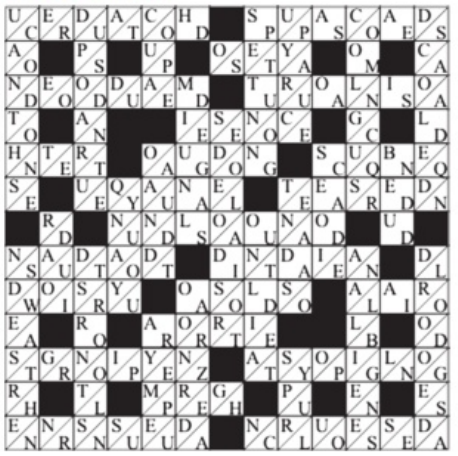
(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

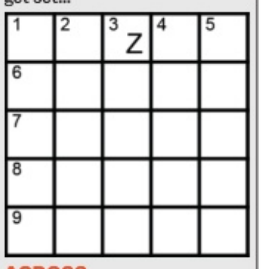
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

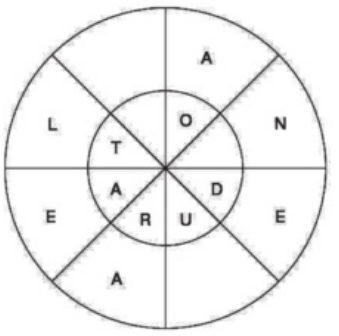
1 Z is an; 6 No ade;
7 Rim me; 8 Bream;
9 Id Say

DOWN

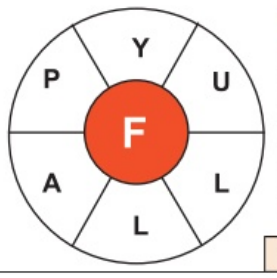
1 Amend; 2 Amnia;
3 Biz mo; 4 Aside;
5 Yes RR

Mensapuzzle

Find two eight-letter words, one reading clockwise round the inner circle, and the other reading anti-clockwise round the outer circle, that are opposite in meaning. You have to provide the missing letters.



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; **05** Good; **06** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

			6		5			
	6	9	7		3	2	4	
	3						6	
1			3	8	7			4
9								1
7			1	2	9			6
	2						5	
	1	5	8		2	6	7	
			4		6			

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

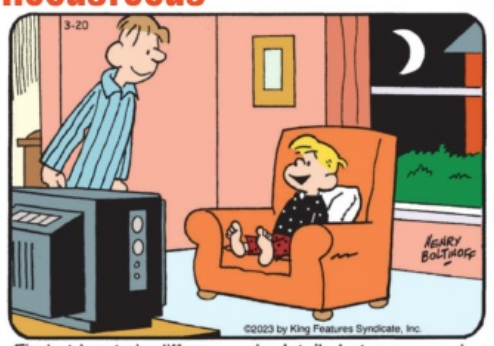
Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 9
2 5 6 8

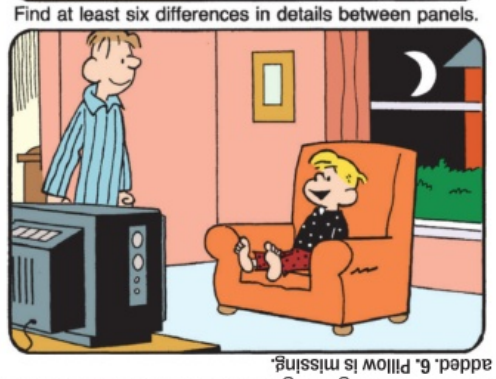
Medium = 12
2 3 4 7

Hard = 9
2 5 6 4

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



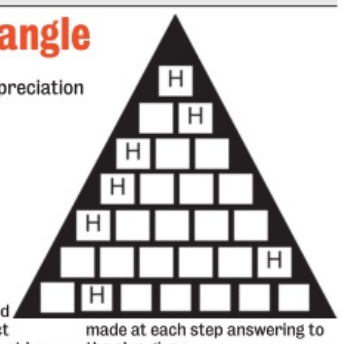
Differences: 1. Boy's legs are longer. 2. Chair is moved. 3. Man is standing straighter. 4. Moon is moved. 5. TV cord is added. 6. Pillow is missing.

Riddler

I lie in a mouth, Or out in the road. A tool for intake, Or lifting a load. What am I?

Alpha triangle

1 8th letter
2 Expression of appreciation
3 Fedora
4 Thermal energy
5 Despised
6 Scarce supply
7 Fibrous



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

THIS PLACE IS A MESS! I WANT IT CLEANED UP BY THE TIME I GET BACK!
OKAY..
IT'S CLEAN! WHAT DID YOU DO WITH ALL THE STUFF?
I'M STORING IT IN THE ATTIC
WE DON'T HAVE AN ATTIC!
WE DON'T?
3-7

Bizarrotrip

We've been hunting for the period of time from when the sun came up until it got dark again.
Let's call it a day.
BIZARRO.COM
3-17-23

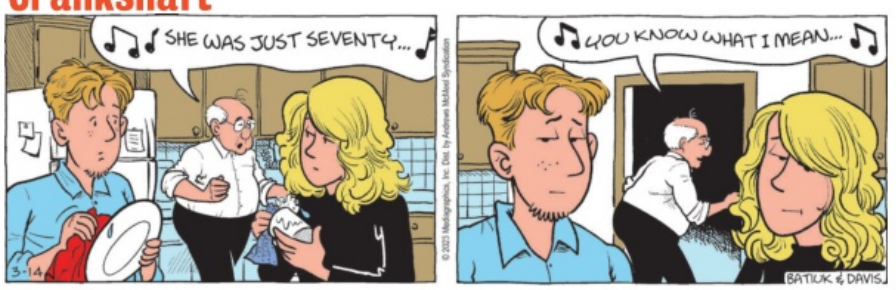
Diamond Lil

And now, a message from the National Council on Plumbers:
IS THAT SOME KIND OF CRACK?
This has been a message from the National Council on Plumbers.

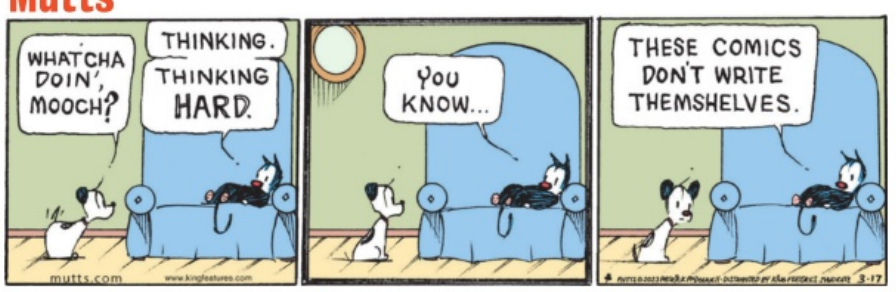
Hart of the city

I WANTED TO BE A MOM AND HOMEMAKER BECAUSE JACKIE AND I WANTED TO BRING NEW LIFE INTO THE WORLD.
WE WANTED TO TAKE ON THE LIFELONG RESPONSIBILITY OF CARING FOR SOMEONE IN ALL PERIODS OF THEIR LIFE!
LIFELONG!? I THOUGHT YOU HAD AN OUT WHEN I TURN EIGHTEEN!
OOH, I'LL HAVE TO CHECK MY CONTRACT.

Crankshaft



Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today is good for your work; you may perform well. Your boss may give you additional responsibilities for promotions. Your rivals and opponents are now under control. You may lend money to build your assets. You may also plan to make investments for your kids' future.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may feel very dull, which can make you lazy and careless. You are likely to be unfocused at work, and impatience may negatively affect you. The health of your kids and spouse may upset you. It's best to avoid making investments in assets. Love birds should refrain from arguing about family matters.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may sense negative vibrations around you, which can make you unhappy. It is advised to avoid investing in worthless assets. Your friends may not be supportive today, so don't expect too much help from them, as it may further upset you. Trust your intuition before making important decisions today.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may be able to successfully implement business plans with the support of your subordinates. You may also participate in social or family gatherings, which can enhance your network. Short business-related travels are likely, which can bring you benefits in the near future.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today is a good day, as your financial health is likely to be good. You may benefit from your past investments. Controlling your spending on unnecessary items can boost your savings. Love birds are advised to maintain politeness in conversations with their partners to avoid conflicts.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may be busy with issues related to siblings and relatives. You may plan to start a new venture with the help of your siblings and network. There may be an order that can increase your family business. Your network may assist you in successfully completing tasks, resulting in smart gains with little effort.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may feel negative due to lack of sleep last night, leading to a sense of dullness. This may affect your work, so it is advisable to postpone any investments in your work. Keep an eye on opponents and rivals, as you may be a victim of conspiracy. Love birds should exercise patience to avoid unnecessary arguments.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may be blessed by the moon. With the help of overseas con- tacts, you may receive a significant order. Although you may experience moments of anxiety, you will manage to control it. Students are likely to study their subjects in depth. Investors are advised to make long-term investments for fruitful gains.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you may be busy at work and face difficulties in completing tasks, which may upset you. However, blessings from elders and gurus can help you overcome this situation. Due to workload, you may feel mentally tired and struggle to spend time with your family. Fortunately, your siblings are likely to support you and help maintain domestic harmony.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, things are under control, and the crunch of the past few days may be over. You may feel calm and focused on your goals. Enjoy your work as disputes in partnerships may be resolved. Property-related litigation may also be resolved. Romantic moments with loved ones are possible.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today is not a good day for you. You may be plagued by negative thoughts and impatience. Your arrogance may hinder you from making difficult decisions. Your life seems to be stuck, and you may need the blessings of your elders to overcome this messy situation. Avoid investing in dead assets, and love birds should steer clear of discussing worthless topics.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you are blessed by the moon, and you may likely hear some good news in terms of work and business. Your domestic life will be in full swing, filled with joy. It is advised to avoid engaging in arguments about worthless topics. Be mindful of overexcitement, as it may test your patience. You should also consider making important decisions regarding investments in assets.

KIDZONE

Sanjanaa V, 14 years, KV DRDO School

Jonathan Sanjay, 11 years, Royale Concorde International School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
m=5d. (m+12)=(2)(d+12).
(m+12)=(2)'[(m/3)+12].
m+24=(2m/3)+24.
m-(2m/3)=12.
(3m-2m)/3=12.
m=36. d=12.
Answer Mother's age is 36.

BULL'S EYE
fall, flap, flay, full, fully, PLAYFUL

FAST FIVE

N	A	Z	I	S
A	N	O	D	E
M	I	M	E	R
E	M	B	A	R
D	A	I	S	Y

STRIKE OUT

C	R	U	T	C	H	S	P	A	C	E	S	
A	P	U	S	T	Y	O	C					
N	O	D	E	D	U	R	A	N	I	A		
O	A	E	S	N	E	C	L					
N	E	I	A	G	O	G	C	U	B	E		
A	T	R	O	P	E	Z	T	Y	P	I	N	G
W	I	R	Y	O	S	L	O	L	A	O		
S	A	D	A	T	I	N	D	I	A	L		
R	U	N	S	O	U	N	D	D				
S	E	O	U	A	L	E	A	R	E	D		
E	N	S	U	E	D	C	L	O	S	E	D	
H	L	M	E	G	U	E	E					
B	A	D	A	M	I	A	N	U	A	L		
L	N	C	N	G	Y							

QUICK

I	A	S	E	U				
S	P	O	U	T	S	C	R	A
S	T	A	C	R	A	N	N	Y
C	O	S	H	R	E	L	I	E
O	E	S	R					
S	O	C	R	A	T	E	S	P
T	A	E	R	P				
S	T	A	T	E	L	A	Y	O
I	E	O	R	C				
A	L	E	R	T	L	Y	E	D
R	I	H	M	A	N	I	L	
B	A	D	A	M	I	A	N	U
L	N	C	N	G	Y			

MENSA PUZZLE
obdurate, amenable

RIDDLER
A fork

QUOTE UNCODE
Beauty can't amuse you, but brainwork – reading, writing, thinking – can.

SUDOKU

2	7	1	6	4	5	3	9	8
8	6	9	7	1	3	2	4	5
5	3	4	2	9	8	1	6	7
9	8	2	5	6	4	7	3	1
7	4	3	1	2	9	5	8	6
6	2	8	9	7	1	4	5	3
4	1	5	8	3	2	6	7	9
1	5	6	3	8	7	9	2	4
3	9	7	4	5	6	8	1	2

ALPHA TRIANGLE
H, Ah, Hat, Heat, Hated, Dearth, Thready.

GO FIGURE
Easy
2 + 8 – 6 + 5 = 9
Medium
7 + 2 x 4 / 3 = 12
Hard
4 x 2 – 5 + 6 = 9

LOOP

KAKURO

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Not as marvellous — Actor Florence Pugh said when she landed a role in the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU), some people in the independent film community were "really pissed off"

BangaloreMirror | 12
Thursday, May 25, 2023
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Actress speaks about how the Indian audience came to accept and love her

Sunny days at Cannes

Sunny Leone recently graced the prestigious Cannes Red Carpet for her latest film 'Kennedy', directed by Anurag Kashyap. During her interaction with the press at the festival, she candidly shared her journey from the adult entertainment industry to Bollywood. Despite facing numerous obstacles along the way, Sunny expressed gratitude for the immense love and support she received from Indian audiences.

Sunny first captured the attention of Indian viewers when she participated in the reality show Bigg Boss. It was during her time on the show that filmmaker Mahesh Bhatt entered the house and offered her a role in the film 'Jism 2'. Reflecting on her experience, Sunny revealed that while she initially had doubts, the channel was persistent in their desire to have her on the show.

She even confided in her then-boyfriend and now husband, Daniel Weber, expressing her apprehension about coming to India due to the hate she had already faced. However, the Bigg Boss team presented a compelling case. After much deliberation, Sunny Leone agreed to join the show. However, just before her entry, she faced even bigger challenges, including death threats and bomb threats.

Sunny also shared that once she entered Bigg Boss, people began to see her as a relatable human being, rather than someone engaging in outrageous behavior. They witnessed her cooking and cleaning on the show, allowing them to connect with the real person behind the entertainment.

Despite her previous background being unknown to many at the time, she garnered a significant number of supporters. However, her journey was far from smooth, as she continued to face unfavourable articles and criticism even after her first film. **— ETimes**

New mommy blues

Two years after welcoming her first child with husband Cory Tran, Freida Pinto is opening up about dealing with postpartum depression. The actress, in a chat with Catt Sadler , opened up about dealing with anxiety and crying a lot after the birth of her baby boy. She added that she had her husband to thank for encouraging her to seek help from a therapist.

She put a video on her social media account and shared, "I remember crying so much and feeling so alone and my parents had just about left to fly back to India and my husband was like you need to start seeing a therapist. The things you were saying and the things you are doing it is also feeling very self-sabotaging." She added it was horrible, but she is happy she went through that because I can relate better."

— IANS

THOSE WERE THE DAYS

PC regrets having burnt some photos from her teenage years

Priyanka Chopra is known for her iconic style, but there was a time when she was embarrassed about her 'overboard' looks. The actress recently opened up about her teenage years and how she has destroyed several memories from the 2000s because of her poor style game.

In an interview, the actress stated that in the early 2000, the trend was to go overboard with everything, with trends like highlights, eyeliner, chain dresses, low-waist jeans and thongs taking over. Priyanka revealed that her present funda is 'less is more', but in her teenage years that was not the case, which is why she ended up burning a lot of her high school pictures.

Priyanka added that she regrets the same because she needed the memories for her biography. She said, "It was like, 'What are you thinking?' It was so much, so unnecessary to do all the things." Priyanka Chopra went to high school in the US and has often opened up about facing bullying in school. Priyanka Chopra is currently winning hearts for her performance in debut OTT series 'Citadel'. She plays the role of a spy alongside Richard Madden. Back in Bollywood, Priyanka has signed up for Farhan Akhtar's 'Jee Le Zaraa'. PC will share screen space with Alia Bhatt and Katrina Kaif in this road trip drama."

—ETimes

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

BY MAHESWARA REDDY

Get on with it

K Manju also known as Gandugali Manju, a well-known producer in Sandalwood, is upset about "poor publicity" and the delay in shooting schedule of the film Mr & Mrs Ramachari. Manju had given permission to Honnaraj to use the title Mr & Mrs Ramachari that was bankrolled by him in 2014. Honnaraj, who used to work as an associate for movies bankrolled by Manju, plays the lead and directs the new film with the same title.

"I could not refuse when Honnaraj approached me seeking permission to use the title. It was a huge success at the box-office in 2014. Honnaraj began the shooting of this movie, three years ago. I want to tell him that it is not an easy task to bankroll a movie in the current situation. One has to spend more money on publicity and post-production activities. I also want to advise him not to degrade the title of my movie," said Manju.

Manju was the chief guest at a function held at Renukamba Preview Theater. Honnaraj debuts as a director and hero with this film. "I requested Manju sir for the title because the script demands such a title. I am grateful to him for allowing me to use it. Shooting of the movie was held in Mandya, Maddur and surrounding locations," Honnaraj said.

Shruthi Raj plays the heroine while Rekha Das, Anil Gowda and Potre Nagaraj are the supporting artistes.

Black magic, for reel

Sumit Shirgurkar from Belagavi wanted to become an associate director but ended up as a hero. Sumit is a cricket player, who had to stop playing cricket due to a back injury.

"I was looking for an opportunity in direction. I approached director Srivathsa Rao to work as his associate but he encouraged me to play the lead in Gadhayuddha. I thank my father Nithin Shirgurkar for bankrolling this movie," said Sumit. Gadayuddha's trailer was released at SRV Theater on Tuesday. The movie is scheduled for release on June 9 in five languages – Kannada, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, and Malayalam. The movie is based on the practice of black magic in Karnataka, Maharashtra, Kerala, and other states in the country. "Srivathsa Rao approached me with the script four years ago. I agreed to bankroll it because of its script," said Nithin Shirgurkar. Sparsha Rekha plays a key role in this movie. "I play a movie actor who becomes a victim of black magic," said Rekha.

Srivathsa said the producer spent more than Rs 1 crore to shoot the climax scene that took 14 days.